

AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS:

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the above-captioned patent application:

Listing of Claims:

1. (Currently Amended) A method for managing mail/parcel item delivery, the mail/parcel item including an optical indicia disposed thereon, the method comprising:
 - capturing a first color image of [the]an item;
 - storing the first color image in an electronic memory;
 - capturing a second color image of [the]an optical indicia;
 - decoding the optical indicia to thereby generate decoded data;
 - associating the first color image with the second color image and/or the decoded data, the first color image and the second color image and/or the decoded data being linked in the electronic memory; and
 - displaying an image including the first color image and at least the decoded data.

2. (New) A method for managing parcel delivery, a parcel including at least one optical indicia disposed thereon, the method comprising:
 - providing a hand held optical reader, said hand held optical reader capable of capturing a color image and capable of performing all of the following steps A, B, C, and D;
 - providing a database;
 - providing a network configured to enable storage of information communicated from said hand held optical reader to said database;
 - capturing a first color image of a parcel using said hand held optical reader;
 - performing at least one of the following steps A, B, C, or D using said hand held reader:

(A) attempting to locate and decode a bar code symbol located within said first color image to generate a first data set; and if successful, associating said first color image with said first data set;

(B) attempting to locate and decode one or more OCR –A or OCR-B characters within said first color image to generate a second data set, and if successful, associating said first color image with said second data set;

(C) attempting to locate and crop one or more text characters within said first color image to generate a third data set, and if successful, associating said first color image with said third data set;

(D) attempting to locate and crop a signature within said first color image to generate a fourth data set, and if successful, associating said first color image with said fourth data set;

storing said first color image and at least one said first, second, third or fourth data sets into said database;

storing a first association between said first color image and at least one said first, second, third or fourth data sets into said database;

storing information representing a route into said database, where said parcel is delivered in association with said route;

storing a route association between said first color image and said route into said database;

storing information representing a driver into said database, where said parcel is delivered in association with said driver;

storing a driver association between said first color image and said driver into said database.

3. (New) The method of claim 1 including the step of displaying an image including said first color image and at least one of said first, second, third or fourth data sets.

4. (New) The method of claim 1 including the step of printing an image including said first color image and at least one of said first, second, third or fourth data sets.
5. (New) The method of claim 1 where said first color image and at least one of said first, second, third or fourth data sets are stored as a record in said database.
6. (New) The method of claim 1 where at least one of said first, route and driver associations are stored as links within said database.
7. (New) The method of claim 1 where at least one of said bar code, said OCR-A or OCR-B characters, said text characters or said signature is stored as a second color image.
8. (New) The method of claim 6 where an association between said second color image and said first data set is stored as a link within said database.
9. (New) The method of claim 6 where an association between said second color image and said second data set is stored as a link within said database.
10. (New) The method of claim 6 where an association between said second color image and said third data set is stored as a link within said database.
11. (New) The method of claim 6 where an association between said second color image and said fourth data set is stored as a link within said database.

12. (New) A method for managing parcel delivery, a parcel including at least one optical indicia disposed thereon, the method comprising:

- providing a hand held optical reader, said hand held optical reader capable of capturing an image and capable of performing all of the following steps A, B, C, and D;
- providing a database;
- providing a network configured to enable storage of information communicated from said hand held optical reader to said database;
- capturing a first image of a parcel using said hand held optical reader;
- performing at least one of the following steps A, B, C, or D using said hand held reader:
 - (A) attempting to locate and decode a bar code symbol located within said first image to generate a first data set; and if successful, associating said first image with said first data set;
 - (B) attempting to locate and decode one or more OCR –A or OCR-B characters within said first image to generate a second data set, and if successful, associating said first image with said second data set;
 - (C) attempting to locate and crop one or more text characters within said first image to generate a third data set, and if successful, associating said first image with said third data set;
 - (D) attempting to locate and crop a signature within said first image to generate a fourth data set, and if successful, associating said first image with said fourth data set;
- storing said first image and at least one said first, second, third or fourth data sets into said database;
- storing a first association between said first image and at least one said first, second, third or fourth data sets into said database;
- storing information representing a route into said database, where said parcel is delivered in association with said route;

storing a route association between said first image and said route into said database;

storing information representing a driver into said database, where said parcel is delivered in association with said driver;

storing a driver association between said first image and said driver into said database.

13. (New) The method of claim 1 including the step of displaying an image including said first image and at least one of said first, second, third or fourth data sets.

14. (New) The method of claim 1 including the step of printing an image including said first image and at least one of said first, second, third or fourth data sets.

15. (New) The method of claim 1 where said first image and at least one of said first, second, third or fourth data sets are stored as a record in said database.

16. (New) The method of claim 1 where at least one of said first, route and driver associations are stored as links within said database.

17. (New) The method of claim 1 where at least one of said bar code, said OCR-A or OCR-B characters, said text characters or said signature is stored as a second image.

18. (New) The method of claim 6 where an association between said second image and said first data set is stored as a link within said database.

19. (New) The method of claim 6 where an association between said second image and said second data set is stored as a link within said database.

20. (New) The method of claim 6 where an association between said second image and said third data set is stored as a link within said database.

21. (New) The method of claim 6 where an association between said second image and said fourth data set is stored as a link within said database.